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INDIA, U.S. CONCLUDE 3-WEEK JOINT EXERCISES IN HIMACHAL

The mega exercises involving special forces of the two countries were held in Himachal Pradesh's Bakloh area

FOCUS ON COUNTER-TERROR MISSIONS

The 13th edition of the annual 'Vajra Prahar' exercise focused on counterterrorism and saw both sides carry out air-borne operations and anti-terror missions. The mammoth exercise was significant as it was held in Himachal Pradesh, a state that borders China. Beijing reacted saying it was against "third-party meddling" in India-China border dispute

DRILL WAS IMMENSELY SATISFYING: ARMY

- The Army said both sides expressed "immense satisfaction" on the standards achieved and the sharing of best practices
- The exercise was conducted in two phases; the first involved combat conditioning and tactical level missions, while the second included 48 hours of validation of training received in the first

Vajra Prahar

EXERCISE IS HOSTED ALTERNATELY BETWEEN INDIA AND THE US

CHENNAI • MADURAI • VIJAYAWADA • BENGALURU • KOCHI • HYDERABAD • VISAKHAPATNAM • COIMBATORE • KOZHIKODE • THIRUVANANTHAPURAM • BELAGAVI • BHUBANESWAR • SHIVAMOGGA • MANGALURU • TIRUPATI • TIRUCHY • TIRUNELVELI • SAMBALPUR • HUBBALLI • DHARMAPURI • KOTTAYAM • KANNUR • VILLUPURAM • KOLLAM • TADEPALLIGUDEM • NAGAPATTINAM • THRISSUR • KALABURAGI

Cong pushes its prez polls by a month to Oct 17

G-23 leader Anand Sharma flags the delay in party's state units receiving electoral rolls

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ New Delhi

WHILE the Congress Working Committee (CWC), the party's apex decision-making body, on Sunday decided to push the party's presidential election to mid-October, a senior functionary questioned whether due process was followed to prepare the electoral rolls for the much-delayed exercise.

The CWC was meeting in the backdrop of the stunning resignation of veteran party leader Ghulam Nabi Azad, who singled out Rahul Gandhi for damaging the party's functioning and its political prospects.

Speaking at the meeting convened virtually by Congress president Sonia Gandhi, senior party functionary and G-23 member Anand Sharma pointed out that not only had the party's state units not received the electoral rolls, there were complaints that no meeting was held before finalising the list of voters.

About 9,000 All India Congress Committee (AICC) delegates make up the electoral college for the party's presidential polls. Filing of nomination papers will begin on September 24. Election will be held on October 17 and the counting of votes will take place two days later. But if only one candidate is left in the fray after October 8, the deadline for withdrawal of nomination papers, the winner will be declared the same day. The election had to be put off by a month as it was clashing with the party's nationwide Bharat Jodo Yatra starting September 7.

During today's CWC meeting, Sharma, who earlier quit as a member of the steering committee that will oversee election-bound Himachal Pradesh, demanded that the electoral rolls be made public. However, the Congress' Central Election Authority Chairman Madhusudan Mistry said the voters' list would be made available to contesting candidates on demand after the delegates are verified.

Party general secretary Jairam Ramesh, however, tried to airbrush Sharma's intervention. "The election schedule that was put forward by Mistry, all CWC members unanimously approved it without raising any questions or demanding an extension of dates," he later told the media.

Sonia, who is abroad for her health checkup, was flanked by Rahul and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra at the meeting, which lasted about 30 minutes.

PARVEEN NEGI

GONE IN 12 SECONDS

A series of controlled explosions on Sunday reduced Supertech's illegally built twin residential towers in Noida to a mountain of rubbles in just 12 seconds

35,000 cubic metres of debris, including concrete rubble, steel and iron bars left in the wake of demolition

3,700 kilos of explosives bored into the pillars and walls of the twin towers went off in quick succession. It was the biggest demolition exercise in the country so far

2.30 pm when the explosives were detonated

5,000 people evacuated from the vicinity of the towers

103 metres Height of the tallest of the two towers, Apex. The other one, Ceyane, was 97 metres tall

20 cr COST OF DEMOLITION

MINOR DAMAGES
Boundary wall of a nearby residential society was damaged and the windowpanes of many apartments developed cracks

HEIGHT OF ILLEGALITY
The towers lacked the mandatory 16-metre space between them. Also, they were constructed in an area meant to be a 'green space' where no buildings were to come up as per the original plan

END OF NINE-YEAR BATTLE
In 2012, residents of Supertech Emerald Court went to court over the illegally built towers. In 2014, the Allahabad HC ordered their demolition. In August 2021, the apex court upheld the order

Truth will come out after probe, says CM Bommai

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

CHIEF Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Sunday said the investigation is on in the Pocso case filed against Dr Shivamurthy Murugha Sharanaru of Murugha Mutt in Chitradurga, and the truth will come out after the probe.

Bommai, however, refused to comment further on the allegations against the pontiff, saying the probe is under way. "The police have registered the Pocso case and also another complaint on the issue. At this stage, making comments or interpreting the case is not good for the investigation," he added. He said, "The police have complete freedom. They will investigate the case."

The Mysuru city police on Saturday filed the Pocso case against the seer after allegations by two minor high school girls. Mutt Advisory Committee member NB Vishwanath said the charges against the seer are false. P4

> The police have registered the Pocso case and also another complaint on the issue. At this stage, making comments or interpreting the case is not good for the investigation -Basavaraj Bommai, Chief Minister

GUJARAT CM CALLS MEDHA PATKAR 'URBAN NAXAL'

While addressing a gathering in Bhuj, CM Bhupendra Patel alleged that the Narmada Bachao Andolan leader was an 'Urban Naxal' who had received political support. P8

SIXY FINISH TO A GRIPPING CONTEST

Hardik Pandya picked up three wickets and scored an unbeaten 17-ball 33 to give India a 5-wkt win over Pakistan in the Asia Cup in Dubai...

Hardik Pandya hits the winning runs on Sunday | AFP

At the same venue against the same opponents four years ago, Hardik Pandya left the field on a stretcher with an injured back. A surgery, a lengthy layoff and managing workload meant India has missed Pandya, the bowler, most notably at the last T20 World Cup. On Sunday, a fully-fit Pandya showed how invaluable he is. After breaking Pakistan's back with three wickets, he did the job with the bat too as Pandya sealed a thrilling victory with a six off the fourth ball of the final over | P11

HARDIK PANDYEAH!

STAT OF THE ART

48 Number of dot balls bowled by India

1st time Indian pacers have taken all 10 wickets in a T20I

When it comes to batting, the chances I take when executing, I'm likelier to pull it off when I'm calmer. I know they had Nawaz waiting to bowl, and while we needed 7, even if we needed 15, I would have fancied our chances
Hardik Pandya

SHORT STORY

On a pitch that had a bit of grass, while conventional wisdom would have been to bowl full, India had a different plan. They chose to surprise the Pakistan batting unit with well-directed short-deliveries. It gave them the desired rewards. In fact, all of Pakistan's first five wickets came via short balls with Hardik Pandya, Avesh Khan and Bhuvneshwar Kumar setting the tone. In the 20 overs that India delivered, there were 18 short-balls — a full three overs

CLOSE SHAVE

Class X student hit by javelin operated upon

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Tumakuru

IN a heart-rending incident, a Class X student was severely injured after a javelin thrown by another student hit the right part of his head at the Rajiv Gandhi Stadium in Madhugiri town in Tumakuru district on Friday. The victim, Indresh from Jupiter Public School in the town, was sitting with his back to the thrower at the stadium. As the throw went awry, the javelin hit Indresh, who collapsed and fell unconscious.

He was rushed to Nimhans in Bengaluru where the doctors conducted a surgery and saved his life, sources told *TNIE*. But his full recovery will take time as some of the nerves are affected. P5

When Ganesha brings Hindus, Muslims together at Gadag village

RAGHOTTAM KOPPAR @ Gadag

AT a time when there are communal incidents in different parts of the state, here is a village where Muslims and Hindus come together to celebrate the Ganesha festival in a grand manner. Kalasapur, 5 km from Gadag town, has been setting an example of communal and religious harmony for the last eight years.

There were no celebrations last two years because of Covid, but it is back this year. Members of the Anjuman-e-Islam committee and other Muslims started raising funds over the last two weeks after village elders planned a united celebration. The Ganesha idol will be installed and the festival celebrated for 11 days. On Wednesday, the day of the festival, members from both communities will participate in pujas and rituals. The idol will be worshipped twice a day. On the last day, the idol will be taken through the village in a procession before immersing it.

People from surrounding villages and Gadag town visit this village to witness the unique celebration. Kalasapur Ganesha is now known as the 'Communal harmony Ganesha'. Thanks to such overtures, the village has not seen a single communal clash till date. If ever there are small incidents, elders from both communities sit together and resolve them.

Villagers said, "Hindus too participate in Ramzan and other Muslim festivals. We have heard of hijab, Ganesh dangal and other communal disturbances in other parts of the state, but we will not allow such incidents to occur in our village."

A file photo of the Ganesha festival at Kalasapur village near Gadag town

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EXPRESS READ

US sails warships through Taiwan Strait

Taipei: The US Navy sailed two warships through the Taiwan Strait on Sunday, in the first such transit publicised since US House Speaker Nancy Pelosi visited Taiwan earlier in August. The USS Antietam and USS Chancellorsville are conducting a routine transit, the US 7th Fleet said on Sunday.

Phogat case: Accused sent to police custody

Panaji: A Goa court on Sunday remanded three of the accused arrested for alleged murder of BJP leader Sonali Phogat to police custody for five days. The police produced Edwin Nunes, who owns the Curlies restaurant, and two drug peddlers Dattaprasad Gaonkar and Ramakant Mandrekar before the court in Panaji.

Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH EMPOWERMENT & SPORTS

Sri Basavaraja S. Bommai
Hon'ble Chief Minister

NATIONAL SPORTS DAY

Launching of RURAL SPORTS FESTIVAL & YOGATHAN 2022

Presentation of Ekalavya, Lifetime Achievement, Karnataka Kreedarathna Award for the year 2020 and Kreeda Poshak Award and Cash Prize reward under Sahasra Kreeda Prathibha Yojane for 2021- 2022

EKALAVYA Award
Major Dhyan Chand NATIONAL SPORTS DAY

Date : 29.08.2022, 11.00 am
Venue : Banquet Hall, Vidhana Soudha, Bangalore

Presentation of Awards
Launching of Rural Sports Festival & Yogathan

Sri Basavaraja S. Bommai
Hon'ble Chief Minister, Government of Karnataka

Special Invitees

Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman
Hon'ble Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs, Government of India

Sri M. Rajeev Chandrashekar
Hon'ble Minister of State for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Electronics and Information Technology, Government of India

Release of Sadhana Sanchike
Dr. K.C. Narayanagowda
Hon'ble Minister of Sericulture, Youth Empowerment and Sports

Cash Award
Dr. K. Sudhakar
Hon'ble Minister of Health & Family Welfare and Medical Education

Presided by
Sri Rizwan Arshad
Hon'ble Member, Shivajinagar Assembly Constituency

Honorable Leaders of Opposition, Ministers, MPs , MLAs, MLCs, Chairmen, Vice-Chairmen of the Boards & all elected Members.

Dr. K.C Narayana Gowda, Hon'ble Minister of Youth Empowerment & Sports interacting with Sportspersons

Dr. Shalini Rajaneesh IAS
Additional Chief Secretary
Dept., of Youth Empowerment and Sports and Planning

Dr. H.N. Gopalakrishna IAS
Commissioner
Dept., of Youth Empowerment and Sports

All are Welcome